

## BOOK NOTICES

DAVID YETMAN. 2002. **The Guarijíos of the Sierra Madre: hidden People of Northwestern Mexico.** (ISBN 0-8263-2234-4). University of New Mexico Press, 1720 Lomas Boulevard NE, Albuquerque, NM 87131-1591, U.S.A. (Orders: 1-800-249-7737; 1-505-277-9270 fax.) \$49.95, 270 pp., numerous b/w photos, 1 map, 8 1/2" × 11 1/4".

The Guarijíos are a native tribe of Mexico's remote Sonora desert, a rugged land of mountains, canyons, plains, and the all-important river. It is a land perhaps best known to botanists through Howard S. Gentry's *Rio Mayo Plants* (1942) and *Gentry's Rio Mayo Plants*, by P.S. Martin, Yetman, et al. (1998.) Yetman journeyed there again to study the plants and the ways that the native use the plants. Actually, by showing an interest in the plants, he became acquainted with the people and their lives so that his book is more of an anthropological study than a botanical one. Nevertheless plants figure predominantly, though it is in no way an attempt to update the earlier works. Rather, Yetman concentrates on the usage (food, medicine, lumber, etc.) with an introductory "plant primer" of nine unusual plants. He culminates his findings with a list of plants, the "ethnoflora" of the Guarijíos.—*Joann Karges, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, TX, U.S.A.*

DAVID YETMAN and THOMAS R. VAN DEVENDER. 2002. **Mayo Ethnobotany: Land, History, and Traditional Knowledge in Northwest Mexico.** (ISBN 0-520-22721-2, hbk.). University of California Press, Berkeley, CA, U.S.A. (Orders: California Princeton Fulfillment Services, 609-883-1759; Fax 609-883-7413) \$48.00 hbk. 359 pp., numerous black and white photographs.

In more than fifty trips of four to ten days between the early 1990s and 2000 the authors visited the Mayos of Sonora and Sinaloa, studying their land, their customs, and especially their use of plants. These are people who for the most part live off the land and so incorporate most of the plants in one way or another in their daily living. After a comprehensive explanation of the of the geography and topography of the land and the ethnography of the Mayos, the authors describe eight plants that are most important to the Mayos, plants that "make the Mayos Mayos." Following is a list of the plants of the areas, arranged by family, and providing the Mayo and Spanish names as well as the binomial. The authors describe the growing characteristics of each plant and cite its uses—some vitally important (construction, food, medicine) and some trivial (such as kindling or a children's seed-spitting game).

With this work, Yetman and Van Devender have contributed another in their growing body of publications that lead to an understanding of the Mayos and their culture as it relates to plants.—*Joann Karges, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, Fort Worth, TX, U.S.A.*